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AUTHOR	Bardovi-Harlig, Kathleen
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ABSTRACT

This book is about the acquisition of temporal expression in a second language. Temporal expression has come into its own as an arena of research in adult second language acquisition. The investigation of temporal expression includes all linguistic means of reference to time. The study of tense-apart morphology has been the focus of many descriptive and pedagogical accounts of language. Although the pedagogy of tense and aspect has received a great deal of attention, the acquisition of tense aspect systems has received relatively little attention in comparison. Interest in this neglected aspect has been growing, and gradually the investigation of the relationship between instruction and acquisition of tense-aspect, increasing the prospects of an acquisitionally informed pedagogy. The book has seven chapters: "The Acquisition of Time Talk in Second Language Acquisition"; "Meaning-Oriented Studies of Temporality"; "The Emergence of Verbal Morphology"; "The Aspect Hypothesis"; "The Role of Discourse"; "The Influence of Instruction"; and "Past, Present, and Future." Numerous tables, figures, and charts appear throughout the text. Extensive references and an index are included. (KFT)

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